

GOVERNMENT OF ANDHRA PRADESH
ABSTRACT

Forest Department - Wildlife - Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary (Nagarjunasagar Srisaillam Tiger Reserve) notified as buffer area of Nagarjunasagar Srisaillam Tiger Reserve under clause (ii) of sub section (4) of section 38 V of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 - Notification - Orders - Issued.

ENVIRONMENT, FORESTS, SCIENCE & TECHNOLOGY (FOR.II) DEPARTMENT

G.O.Ms.No. 54

Dated:27-07-2012

Read the following:

- 1.From Supreme Court of India SLP (C) No.21339/2011, Order Dt.03.4.2012
- 2.From PCCF(WL) & CWLW., A.P. Hyd. Lr.RC.No.19911/2012/WL-4, Dt.22-06-2012 and 20.07.2012.

ORDER:-

Whereas, Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary is the largest Tiger Reserve of India and is popularly known as "Nagarjunasagar Srisaillam Tiger Reserve (N.S.T.R). This sanctuary is an abode for rich Bio-Diversity, especially, many endangered flora and its associated fauna;

2. And whereas, the Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary (Nagarjunasagar Srisaillam Tiger Reserve) spreading over an area of 3568.09 Sq.kms is situated in the Nallamalais - an offshoot of Southern - Eastern Ghats in Andhra Pradesh. The Geographical situation of N.S.T.R is between 15°-53'N and 16°-43'N - Latitudes and 78°-30'E and 79°-28'E - Longitudes. This sanctuary epitomizes typical, physical and biological features of Deccan plateau (6D, 6E);

3. And whereas, this sanctuary is decorated with mosaic of Geo-Morphological diversity, floristic streams draining into River Krishna and a variety of faunal species. Most of the Tiger Reserve is hilly with plateaus, ridges, gorges and deep valleys which support tropical mixed dry deciduous forests with an under growth of bamboo and grass;

4. And whereas, Nagarjunasagar - Srisaillam Wildlife Sanctuary was declared as a Wildlife Sanctuary under section 18 of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 vide G.O.Ms.No. 485, Forests and Rural Development (For-III) Department, Dated 5th July, 1978. The sanctuary attained the status of Project Tiger area in 1983. This was subsequently renamed as Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary vide G.O.Ms.No. 233, EFS&T (For-III) Department, Dated. 16th September, 1992;

P.T.O.

5. And whereas, the final Notification has been issued for Rajiv Gandhi Wildlife Sanctuary under section 26A of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972 vide G.O.Ms.No. 84 EFS&T (For-III) dept, dt. 27th June, 1998;

6. And whereas, the main objective for the declaration of the Buffer area around the sanctuary/ Critical Tiger Habitat area is to provide extra space for conservation of the Tiger, where a lesser degree of Habitat protection is required to ensure the integrity of the Critical Tiger Habitat with adequate space for dispersal for Tiger Species. The notification of the buffer also aims at promoting co-existence between wildlife and man with due recognition of the livelihood, developmental, social and cultural rights of the local people. The limits of such buffer areas are determined on the basis of scientific and objective criteria and with due consultation with Grama Sabha and Expert Committee constituted for the purpose;

7. And whereas, the National Tiger Conservation Authority, Government of India has issued instructions for delineation of Buffer / peripheral area in Government of India, Nagarjunasagar Srisaillam Tiger Reserve (NTCA) in Lr.No. 1501/2011/2007-PT, (part) dt. 16.1.2007, in consultation with the concerned Gram Sabha and the Expert Committee, under section 38 V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972;

8. And whereas, the Divisional Forest Officers have conducted Grama Sabhas in this regard and submitted Grama Sabha Resolutions. The Grama Sabha have not expressed any objections for declaration of buffer area, but people of buffer villages of Achampet Division have requested to continue their existing rights on the forest produce. This issue has been discussed with Expert Committee under section 38V of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972;

9. And whereas, the Expert Committee has gone through the details of households, cattle population, ongoing forestry activities, habitat suitability of Tiger and prey population and the presence of Tiger in recent past, in the proposed buffer area, to find out the suitability of the areas for constitution as buffer of Rajiv Gandhi wildlife sanctuary (Nagarjunasagar Srisaillam Tiger Reserve). The area so determined after taking into consideration the above criteria is notified as buffer area of Nagarjunasagar Srisaillam Tiger Reserve;

10. Now, therefore, the Government after careful examination of the matter, have decided to notify the area as buffer area of Nagarjuna Sagar Srisaillam Tiger Reserve under the provisions of Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.

(Contd.....3)

11. Accordingly, the following Notification will be published in an Extra-ordinary issue of the Andhra Pradesh Gazette.

12. The District Collectors Mahaboobnagar, Guntur, Prakasham, Kurnool are requested to republish the notification in their District Gazettes and take necessary further action in the matter.

(BY ORDER AND IN THE NAME OF THE GOVERNOR OF ANDHRA PRADESH)

M. SAMUEL,
SPECIAL CHIEF SECRETARY TO GOVERNMENT

To
The Commissioner, Printing, Stationery and Stores Purchase Department,
A.P., Hyderabad. (He is requested to supply (200) copies of the
printed
Gazette Notification to the Principal Chief Conservator Forests
(Wildlife) & Chief Wildlife Warden, Andhra Pradesh,
Hyderabad and (50) copies to Government.)
The Principal Chief Conservator of Forests (WL) & Chief Wildlife Warden,
Andhra Pradesh, Hyderabad.
The Collectors, Mahaboobnagar, Guntur, Prakasham and Kurnool Districts
(He is requested to republish the Notification in the
District Gazette and take necessary further action
under Chapter-IV of the Wildlife (Protection) Act, 1972.)
The Conservator of Forests (WLM),
Hyderabad, Guntur, Kurnool
The Conservator of Forests & Field Director,
Project Tiger Circle, Srisailem
Copy to the Asst. Insp. Genl. (NTCA). GoI, MoEF, Annexe No-V, Bikaner
House, Shahjahan Road, New Delhi.
Copy to the Law (B) Department.
Copy to the Principal Chief Conservator of Forests, A.P., Hyderabad.
SF/SC

//FORWARDED :: BY ORDER//

SECTION OFFICER